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Paper No. 9

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP 1185 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036

In re Application of Yasumasa Mizushima, Masami Kinugasa, Zenta Watanabe, Masakatsu Mori, Eumio Koyama, Nobuaki Katsuya, Koji Hagioda, Haruyo Endo, and Yukihiro Eukuda Application No. 10/008,443 Filed: December 3, 2001 Attorney Docket Number: 6640/66050 Title of Invention: INFORMATION PROCESSING APPARATUS AND INFORMATION PROCESSING METHOD, NETWORK SYSTEM, RECORDING MEDIUM, AND COMPUTER PROGRAM

**DECISION GRANTING STATUS** UNDER 37 CFR 1.47(a)

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

This is in response to the renewed petition under 37 CFR 1.47(a), filed January 21, 2003 and supplemented March 4, 2003.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

Petitioner has shown that the non-signing inventor has refused to join in the filing of the above-identified application after having been presented with the application papers. Specifically, the declaration of Yoriko Konishi attest a copy of the application was sent to non-signing inventor's last known address. The non-signing inventor's failure to respond to the application sufficiently establishes that he refuses to execute the application papers.

The above-identified application and papers have been reviewed and found in compliance with 37 CFR 1.47(a). This application is hereby accorded Rule 1.47(a) status.

As provided in Rule 1.47(c), this Office will forward notice of this application's filing to the non-signing inventor at the address given in the petition. Notice of the filing of this application will also be published in the Official Gazette.

This application is being forwarded to the Office of Initial Patent Examination for further processing.

Telephone inquiries related to this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (703) 306-0251.

Charlinak Sorat Charlema R. Grant **Petitions Attorney** Office of Petitions